

# Using Federal Funds to Support Family Engagement

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# Objectives for Session

Participants will learn how to:

- support district and school movement from **parent involvement** to **family engagement**,
- share strategies for effective family engagement, and
- review funding sources supporting family engagement.



# What the Research Says



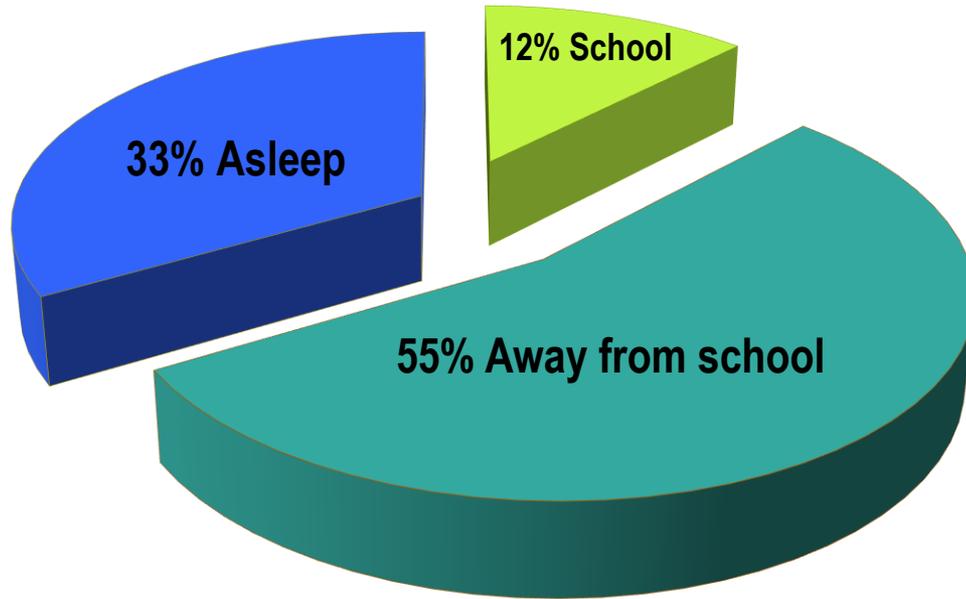
# Family Engagement Improves Schools

“How well schools welcome and engage families in children’s learning will determine the success of school improvement efforts.”

*Beyond Random Acts: Family, School and Community Engagement as an Integral Part of Education Reform. Harvard Family Research Project*



# It's a Matter of Time



Based on 6 hours of instruction, 180 days per year, and 8 hours of sleep time.

(School = 1,080 Hours) (Sleep = 2,920 Hours) (Away from school = 4,760 Hours)

(Total Hours in a Year = 8,760)



# Supporting movement from Parent Involvement to Family Engagement

## Reframing Family Engagement ...

- From an individual parent's or teacher's "job"  To a shared responsibility
- From random acts  To systemic approaches from cradle to career
- From events  To results-driven
- From add-on services  To purposeful connections to learning
- From compliance  To focus on learning, improvement, accountability and innovation
- From limited data  To transparent data systems

# Policy Not Enough

District support for family engagement

School building coordination at every level

Classroom engagement of families

**More and different families support student learning**



# **USDE Framework: Build Families' Capacity for Engagement**

**Build families' capacity through training, information and coordination activities:**

- “Parent University”,
- parent leadership training, and
- survey families on their perspectives/needs:
  - how to monitor their child's progress,
  - literacy and math strategies, and
  - their “right to know”.



# USDE Framework: Build Teachers' Capacity for Engagement

- Conduct a Professional Book Study for staff to increase knowledge and awareness of issues related to students and families.
- Ask staff together to complete the Promoting Excellence for All eCourse:  
<http://dpi.wi.gov/excforall/ecourse>
- Invite community agency reps to educate teachers about changing dynamics of and opportunities for families
- Feature a panel of family members at teacher inservice: What do they like about/need from your school?
- Link family engagement goals to student learning



# Parent Advisory Council Belief Statement

**“We believe all parents want their children to learn and to succeed in school. Families are a source of strength and knowledge.**

**Families are best able to help their children do well in school when schools accept families as they are and make frequent efforts to know, listen to, and learn from parents.”**



# 7 Strategies to increase Family Engagement



From the State Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council Report  
<http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/excforall/pacreport.pdf>

# Title I -A Requirements for Family Engagement

- Needs assessment involving parents
- Parent involvement policies
- School-Parent Compacts
- “Right to know” public and parents’ reporting requirement
- Annual Title I parent meeting
- Build parent capacity through training, information and coordination activities
- Perform annual assessment of the effectiveness of parent involvement



# Sources to Fund Family Engagement

- IDEA Special Education
- Title I-A
- Title I-C Migrant Education
- Title I-D Subpart 2 (Neglected and Delinquent)
- Title II – Professional Development
- Title III- English Language Learners
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grants
- Community Partners
- Local foundations PTA/PTO
- Local, State and District funds



# Family Engagement Resources

[Family Engagement Resources](#)

